

# Administrative Office of Courts



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# **Updated AOC Website**

By Tommy Harris, Applications Programming

The AOC website has been updated. Some of the features are:

- Division and Section Information Added (i.e. Judicial College, Court Services and IT, and Finance)
- Website enhancements and corrections
- Updated graphics on the pages to give the website a more appealing look

Other enhancements are coming in the future. Don't forget to view these changes at <a href="https://www.alacourt.gov">www.alacourt.gov</a>.





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Congratulations to Jim Watkins for becoming AOC's new IT Assistant Director.

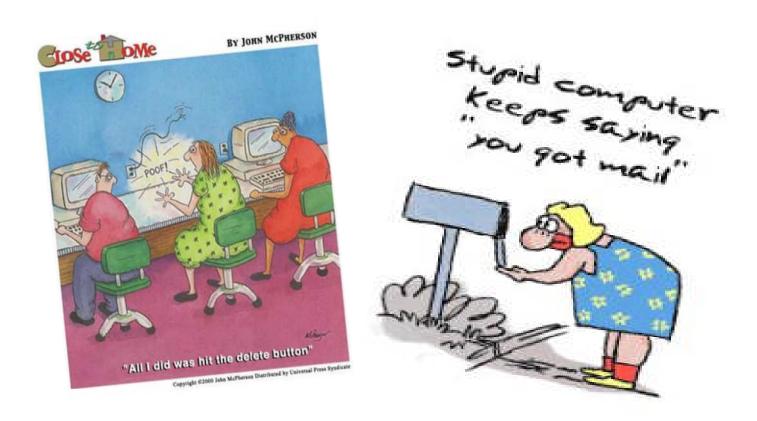
**Editors**IT Support Team

# **New Policy for Motions to Intervene**

By Nathan Wilson, AOC Legal Division

A new policy is being implemented regarding filing fees for Motions to Intervene. Previously, AOC had advised that this \$297 fee should not be charged upfront; rather, AOC recommended that this fee be charged once the judge grants the intervention. After revisiting the issue, AOC feels that this method does not comport with the language of the statute. Section 12-19-75(a) states, in pertinent part, "(a) The filing fees which shall be collected in civil cases shall be... (9) Two hundred ninety-seven dollars (\$297) on a motion or complaint to appear as an intervener or a third party plaintiff in a civil action of the circuit court other than cases filed on the domestic relations docket of the circuit court." The statute indicates that the fee should be charged and collected at the time the motion (or complaint) is filed. AOC recommends for the clerks to begin charging the fee at the time the motion to intervene is filed. The AlaFile application is in the process of being programmed to charge the fee at the time of the filing. Once the court grants the motion, it is procedurally correct for the intervening party to file a pleading. There should be no fee charged at this time if the \$297 had been paid at the time of the motion.

### FUNNIES...



# **E-Transcripts Info**

By Jasmine Jones, IT Support

In order to make the SJIS sentencing screen as accurate as possible, a new field has been added. The CCR field should be marked if the defendant is placed on probation and a condition of that probation is to report to community corrections. The DOCC field should be marked if the defendant is sentenced to serve time in community corrections which would otherwise be served in Department of Corrections.

Pursuant to Alabama's Community Punishment and Corrections Act

		SENTENCE			COUNTY:			CRAR05
ACTION:	CASE:				DEFSTS:		CONFI	D: N
NAME:				A:				
SENT:	BEGIN:		END:		PRBBEG:	PRBREV:		
IMP CONF	SUSP	CONF TO	OTL CONF		IL CRED	PROBATION	LICN	SUSP
MONETARY:	COST	FINE I	IMP:	SL	ISP:	CVC	С	HIST
	wccs	MCOS			EE	DRG	F	ASUS
	WCDA	REMB		30	VC	WAR	R	USFE
	PREL	DRUG		RC	:UP	SUB	Р	CRIMEF
	RES1			RES2	S2		RES3	
	RES4			RES5		RES6		
CONFINE:	PENT	LIFE	LWOP	DEATH	SPLIT	BOOT	EMON	
	JAIL	CCUR	CSEC	CTERM	RVSPL	GANG		$\checkmark$
PROGRAMS:	<b>JDVR</b>	IPROB	AASCH	DUI	DDC	CSV	SAPP	× CCR
	PTRL	BCSCH	MNTL	CRO	ASCH	ANGER	DRCT	× DOCC
ENHANCED:	PROJ	CNOT	SCH	VDOB		HOOF		
	DRUG	CODE:		MEAS:	VOL:			
SEC/CUR:								
COMMENT:								

(§15-18-170 et seq.), a judge may sentence an eligible offender directly to a community corrections program as an alternative to prison, as a part of or in conjunction with a split sentence, or as a condition of probation. The duration of the sentence for an offender that is sentenced to a community-based program can be for "any period of time up to the maximum sentence within the appropriate sentence range for the particular offense," taking into consideration that the participation level may not exceed the program's maximum capacity limit. (Excerpt from the Alabama Sentencing Commission 2007 Report)

When you mark these fields in SJIS, please note that this info will be displayed under the provisions tab of E-Transcripts.

An updated version of the E-Transcripts Manual is now available on the E-Transcripts website under the Training tab. It can also be viewed under the Manuals link when you log into http://training.alacourt.gov website.

Some of the added entries include explanations to the following questions on E-Transcripts:

#### "Does this sentence information pertain to all charges? Y or N"

This question refers only to the changes for the case that the transcript is being prepared for. This is only for the case that you are currently processing. If the case has multiple charges the sentencing information and the Provisions are the same (identical) for each count. Alabama Department of Corrections will only need one set of sentencing information and one set of Provisions on the transcript.

#### • "Concurrent with Everything? Y or N"

This question pertains to any and all cases that the defendant has. It may be cases that the defendant is already serving or pending cases. Is this case concurrent with all other cases?

#### • "Concurrent with All Counts? Y or N"

This question refers to multiple counts within the case that is being processed; but only within this case. Are the counts for this case concurrent to each other?

#### • "Can we recall an accepted transcript electronically?"

Currently, recalls to **accepted** transcripts can not be handled electronically. Per ADOC, the procedure is the same as if you were recalling a paper transcript. You will need to send ADOC something in writing indicating the defendant's name, case number, etc., and the reason you are recalling it.

#### • "How do we handle Probation Revocation Orders?"

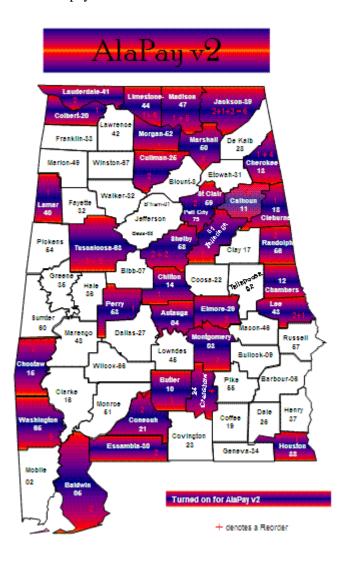
Please enter and post the e-transcript on cases with Probation Revocation Orders. However, ADOC does not need the copy of the court order unless you choose to attach it to the e-transcript. Do not send the hard copy of the order to ADOC.

There are several other additions to the manual. Be sure to check out these updates as soon as possible.

### **AlaPay v2 Deployment Makes Progress**

By Brenda Tadlock – IT Support

Our deployment of *AlaPay v2* (*Over the Counter Credit Card Payments*) is making great progress. We have 31 out of 67 Counties taking over-the-counter credit card payments.



The positive aspect on the use of Credit Card swipes in the Clerk's Office are:

- 1. Convenience Gives the Customer a Choice
- 2. Additional Revenue generated for the Clerk's Fund
- 3. Internal Control Clerk's Office is not dealing with cash and the challenges sometimes associated with cash (i.e. time consumed counting money, receipt of counterfeit bills, distribution of needed change).

The activation process for AlaPay v2 is very easy. Simply email <a href="mailto:applicationsupport@alacourt.gov">applicationsupport@alacourt.gov</a> (Attn: Brenda Tadlock) or call 1-866-954-9411 option 1, option 5. We can get you setup immediately. The swipes connect to the PC via USB port. They are plug and play, which means that there is no software to install. Just plug them into your PC and you are ready to go. Our manual is very detailed, complete with screenshots and step-by-step instructions from "how to process the credit card" to "how to receipt the payment in SJIS".

Please email or call IT Support to get set up with AlaPay v2. Once your customers see the Visa / MasterCard logo in your office window, you will wonder how you ever did without the credit card option!

# **E-Appellate Reminders**

By Joey Hunt, IT Support

We would like to remind all appeal clerks of the following:

- The Record on appeal should be assembled in the following order: Jacket, Clerks Record, Court Reporters Transcript, Certificate of Completion, and the Index.
- Be sure that any exhibits that belong with the Record on Appeal are attached at the end of the clerk's record.

Thanks to everyone for complying with the new rule changes.



# **Technology Tip**

By Court Services and IT

Locate all your unread messages in Outlook in a snap (Outlook 2003)

You may receive so many emails on a daily or weekly basis that you lose track of them all. You may even skip over some without reading them. Here's an easy way to locate all of your unread messages within a folder quickly. To do so, click on the Mail icon in the Navigation Pane, and then click the plus sign (+) in front of the Search Folders folder in the All Mail Folders List. Next, click on the Unread Mail folder to view all of your unread messages. This technique displays all of your unread messages regardless of their location.







### Equipment News Flash!!!

Do you have equipment (PC's, Printers, Scanners, etc.) that you've received that needs to be installed? Do you have a general 'How-To' question or just need assistance?

Well, Help is only an email or a Phone Call away!

Please contact Court Services IT HelpDesk at

1-866-954-9411 Option 1, then Option 1 or

Email us at <a href="mailto:PCHelp@alacourt.gov">PCHelp@alacourt.gov</a>

Thank you,

Court Services IT HelpDesk



For all of your Application Questions, please contact IT Support at

#### ApplicationSupport@alacourt.gov

For Faster Service, please include the Application you need assistance with in the Subject line.

Or call us at

1-866-954-9411 Option 1, then Option 5



Option 1, then Option 3